Breach of contract by Bofors

1695. SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN:
SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts to book the Howitzer company of Sweden through Government of Sweeden was made considering volumes of evidence available against the company for breach of contract; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) and (b) It has already been decided that future contracts for supply of weapons and weapon systems will not be entered into with Bofors. Further necessary action will be taken in the light of the findings of the investigations, which are in hand.

Sixth account in Swiss Bank concerning the Bofors gun deal

1696. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the Sixth Account in the Swiss Bank which has been detected during the investigation into the Bofors gun deal; and

(b) how much amount was slashed away therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) and (b) The Swiss authorities have frozen six Swiss Bank Accounts on 26-1-1990. A Letter Rogatory has been issued to the Swiss authorities on 9-2-1990. Further investigations are in progress.

Frozen bank accounts

1697. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the authorised signatories of the five frozen bank accounts involved in the alleged pay-offs in the Bofors gun deal; and

(b) what is the identification of Sixth Swiss Bank account which has been frozen in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) and (b) The matter is under the investigation of the concerned agencies in India and Switzerland. Details will be available on its conclusion.

Growth of substandard Degree Colleges

1698. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to check the growth of substandard Degree Colleges floated by private management; and

(b) the number of such colleges in the country where teachers do not get the UGC pay scales or do not enjoy any service security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) The agencies involved in the establishment of new colleges are State Governments universities and in some cases private managements. A college can be established only after the university concerned agree to grant affiliation to it. It is, therefore, only the university and the State Government concerned which can ensure that no college is apended without having the basic minimum infrastructure. The University Grants Commission, however, has issued guidelines to the State Governments/universities indicating the terms and conditions which should be fulfilled before granting affiliation to a college.

(b) Almost all States have now accepted the revised scales of pay of UGC